

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Due to the impending retirement of United States Magistrate Judge David Lowe, the Judges of the Eastern District of Virginia are authorized to appoint a full-time United States magistrate judge for the Eastern District of Virginia at Richmond.

The duties of the position include the following: (1) conduct of most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) conduct of various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from the judges of the district court; (4) trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants; and (5) review of Social Security Administration disability determinations. The basic jurisdiction of the United States magistrate judge is specified in 28 U.S.C. § 636.

To be qualified for appointment an applicant must:

- (1) Be, and have been for at least five years, a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States, and have been engaged in the active practice of law for a period of at least five years.
- (2) Be competent to perform all the duties of the office; be of good moral character; be emotionally stable and mature; be committed to equal justice under the law; be in good health; be patient and courteous; and be capable of deliberation and decisiveness;
- (3) Be less than seventy years old; and
- (4) Not be related to a judge of the district court.

A Merit Selection Panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review all applicants and recommend to the judges of the district court, in confidence, the three persons it considers best qualified. The court will make the appointment, following an FBI full-field investigation and an IRS tax check of the appointee. An affirmative effort will be made to give due consideration to all qualified candidates, including women and members of minority groups. The current annual salary of the position is \$145,452.00. The term of office is eight years.

Application forms and more information on the magistrate judge position may be obtained from the Clerk of the District Court, Elizabeth H. Paret, Clerk, United States District Court, 1000 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23219, or the chairman of the selection panel, Craig S. Cooley, Esq., P. O. Box 7268, Richmond, Virginia 23221. Applications must be submitted only by potential nominees personally and **must be received by October 25, 2004.**

All applicants will be kept confidential, unless the applicant consents to disclosure, and all applicants will be examined only by members of the Merit Selection Panel and the judges of the district court. The panel's deliberations will remain confidential.